

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/23869

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<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(7) : H01L 31/0352, 31/0248; C30B 15/00, 21/06 US CL : 136/261, 252, 256; 117/931; 423/325 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 136/261, 252, 256; 117/931; 423/325  Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)				
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X — Y	US 20030056715 A1 (TACHIKAWA et al) 27 March 2003 (27.03.2003), page 5 and Table 2.	1-7 ----- 8-18		
Y	US 5,468,652 A (GEE) 21 November 1995 (21.11.1995), column 2, line 55 through column 3, line 46, and Figure 1.	1-8, 13, 16-18		
Y	US 6,005,185 A (TANGE) 21 December 1999 (21.12.1999), column 2, line 45 through column 3, line 50, and Figure 1.	1-7, 9-18		
A	US 6,111,191 A (HALL et al) 29 August 2000 (29.08.2000).	1-18		
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">           * Special categories of cited documents:            "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance            "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date            "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)            "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means            "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">           "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention            "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone            "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art            "&amp;" document member of the same patent family         </td> </tr> </table>			* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 09 November 2004 (09.11.2004)		Date of mailing of the international search report <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">26 NOV 2004</div>		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer Alan Diamond Telephone No. 571-272-1700 <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;"> <i>Jean Froese</i>  <i>Paralegal</i> </div>		